

Amendments to the Claims:

1. – 59. (cancelled)

60. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule ~~having~~ consisting of nucleotides 206-2603 of SEQ ID NO: 1 and variants thereof that are at least ~~[[85%]]~~ 94% identical to nucleotides 206-2603 of SEQ ID NO: 1;
wherein said nucleic acid molecule encodes ~~encoding~~ a urease protein having enzymatic activity that catalyzes the hydrolysis of urea.

61. (cancelled)

62. (previously presented) A recombinant DNA molecule comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 60 or said variants thereof, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule or said variants thereof are under the control of a functionally linked promoter.

63. (previously presented) A live recombinant carrier comprising the recombinant DNA molecule of claim 62.

64. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 60 or said variants thereof.

65. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the recombinant DNA molecule of claim 62.

66. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the live recombinant carrier of claim 63.

67.-70. (cancelled)

71. (currently amended) An isolated *Helicobacter felis* urease X subunit polypeptide having consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2 and variants thereof that are at least [[85%]] 94% identical to SEQ ID NO: 2;
wherein said polypeptide has enzymatic activity that catalyzes and catalyze the hydrolysis of urea in a combination with an isolated *Helicobacter felis* urease Y subunit polypeptide.

72.-73. (cancelled)

74. (previously presented) The variants of claim 71, wherein said variants are at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 2.

75. (previously presented) An immunogenic composition for combating *Helicobacter felis* infections, comprising antibodies against the polypeptide of claim 71 or said variants thereof.

76. (previously presented) An immunogenic composition, comprising an immunogenically effective amount of the polypeptide according to Claim 71 or said variants thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

77. (currently amended) An isolated *Helicobacter felis* urease Y subunit polypeptide having consisting of SEQ ID NO: 3 and variants thereof that are at least [[86%]] 94% identical to SEQ ID NO: 3;
wherein said polypeptide has enzymatic activity that catalyzes and catalyze the hydrolysis of urea in a combination with an isolated *Helicobacter felis* urease X subunit polypeptide.

78. (previously presented) The variants of claim 77, wherein said variants are at least 98% identical to SEQ ID NO: 3.

79. (previously presented) The variants of claim 77, wherein said variants are at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 3.

80. (previously presented) An immunogenic composition for combating *Helicobacter felis* infections, comprising antibodies against the polypeptide of claim 77 or said variants thereof.
81. (previously presented) An immunogenic composition, comprising an immunogenically effective amount of the polypeptide according to Claim 77 or said variants thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
82. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 60, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is nucleotides 206-2603 of SEQ ID NO: 1.
83. (new) The isolated *Helicobacter felis* urease X subunit polypeptide of claim 71, wherein said polypeptide is SEQ ID NO: 2.
84. (new) The isolated *Helicobacter felis* urease Y subunit polypeptide of claim 77, wherein said polypeptide is SEQ ID NO: 3.